

## Message Text

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ACTION NSF-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 /019 W

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R 211212Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6274

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN USEGJC

SUBJ: JWGTRD - INFORMATION

REF: STATE 202499

1. IN SCIATT'S ABSENCE, EMBOFF CONTACTED DR. IBRAHIM BEDRAN, EGYPTIAN COORDINATOR FOR JOINT GROUP ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION (JGSTI) ON AUGUST 19 REGARDING (A) PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF IBM'S SARASOHN TO U.S. SIDE OF JGSTI AND (B) PLANNED MEETING IN NOVEMBER PRECEDED BY PRONKO VISIT WEEK OCTOBER 17. AFTER DESCRIBING SARASOHN'S QUALIFICATIONS, EMBOFF ASKED FOR BEDRAN'S INFORMAL OPINION. BEDRAN SAID THAT HE PREFERRED TO RECEIVE REQUEST IN WRITING AND THAT HE WOULD TOUCH BASE WITH ALL CONCERNED INCLUDING CAPMAS DIRECTOR ASKAR BEFORE GIVING REPLY. PERSONALLY, BEDRAN SAID HE DID NOT THINK SARASOHN'S IBM AFFILIATION SHOULD POSE PROBLEM.

2. REQUEST DEPT'S ADVICE RE EMBASSY'S SENDING LETTER TO BEDRAN. OUR PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO INFORM BEDRAN OF ENTIRE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP IN LETTER WITHOUT SINGLING OUT SARASOHN. EGYPTIANS THEN WOULD BE FREE TO REACT.

3. ALTHOUGH BEDRAN WAS NOT ABLE TO GIVE US LIST OF EGYPTIAN PARTICIPANTS, WE ARE WONDERING IF ENOUGH OF

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PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE SAME AS THOSE WHO WILL ATTEND

JWGTRD SESSION TO MAKE IDEA OF HOLDING OF SUBSEQUENT JGSTI MEETING IN WASHINGTON POSSIBLY VALID. ASSUME WASHINGTON AGENCIES HAVE CONSIDERED THIS POSSIBILITY. IT APPEARS TO US THAT IF PARTICIPANTS ARE MOSTLY SAME AND IF MEETING COULD BE HELD IN WASHINGTON AFTER JWGTRD MEETING THIS WOULD MAKE MORE SENSE. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THIS IDEA.

4. REGARDING NOVEMBER MEETING FOR JGSTI, BEDRAN RECALLED THAT JWGTRD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WASHINGTON LAST TWO WEEKS OF NOVEMBER. HE THEREFORE SAID THAT IF JGSTI MEETING TAKES PLACE IN NOVEMBER, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE IN FIRST FEW DAYS IN ORDER NOT TO CONFLICT WITH JWGTRD MEETING. HE PROPOSED THREE-DAY MEETING BEGINNING NOVEMBER 2. BEDRAN ALSO AGREED TO PRONKO VISIT, IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY AS ADVANCE FOR JGSTI MEETING.

5. IF MEETING BETTER HELD IN CAIRO, PLEASE ADVISE ACCEPTABILITY OF NOVEMBER 2,3,4, DATES FOR JGSTI MEETING. HOTEL RESERVATIONS PER REFTTEL BEING MADE TENTATIVELY PENDING DEPT'S CONFIRMATION.  
EILTS

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